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1986-1987
FINAL REPORT

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PRESENTED TO
The Honourable Dave Russell
MINISTER of
ALBERTA ADVANCED EDUCATION

Alberta
ADVANCED EDUCATION

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Corrigenda

Page 4, Item #1, Recommendation 1, should read as follows:

1) That the Minister of Advanced Education consider the need for increased co-ordination among the distant and community education systems (i.e. Community Consortia, Further Education Councils, Community Schools, etc.) to reduce the overlaps and fill the gaps of service at the local level,

Page 10, Brief #5, the Recommendation should read as follows:

Recommendation: That consideration be given to increasing the funds available to meet administrative costs by blending the Administrative and Programming grants, or by lifting the grant ceilings.

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Alberta
ADVANCED EDUCATION
Minister's Advisory Committee
On Further Education

Devonian Building, East Wing, 11160 Jasper Avenue, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada T5K 0L1

April 13, 1987

The Honourable D. J. Russell
Deputy Premier and Minister
of Advanced Education
323 Legislature Building
Edmonton, Alberta
T5K 2B6

Dear Mr. Russell:

I am pleased to submit for your review and consideration, the 1986-87 Final Report from your Advisory Committee on Further Education.

I would like to point out that the Further Education Committee operates on a different calendar year, in so far as preparing a final report, than the Government's fiscal year. The Committee's year-end for preparing the report is May 30th, thus, the Committee has only completed a partial schedule of activities for this reporting period.

In October 1987, the Committee had the opportunity to hold a pubic meeting for the central Alberta region, which includes the City of Edmonton and outlying communities, ranging from Wildwood to Vegreville, and Ponoka to Barrhead. The meeting was held in conjunction with the Alberta Association for Continuing Education's Fall Conference at the Mayfield Inn. This provincial Conference was attended by education practioners from the post-secondary institutions, Further Education Councils, Community Consortia and the public at large.

At the aforementioned public meeting a number of issues arose which I feel should be brought to your attention. These issues have been raised at previous public meetings and have been addressed by an appropriate recommendation in the 1985-86 Annual Report. However, there are those who feel strongly enough to resubmit briefs concerning adult literacy, the availability of credit courses in rural communities and adequate financial support for Further Education Councils throughout Alberta. The recommendations in the 1985-86 Annual Report are still applicable and thus have again been assigned to the appropriate brief.

On behalf of the Committee, I would like to thank you for the opportunity to play such an integral role in the future of education in this province. The Committee members have gained significant insight into the various issues and concerns which face the Government and citizens of today. A concerted effort by all Albertans will ensure this province remains the leader in providing quality education to its children and adults well into the future.

Sincerely yours,

Wendy Gould
Chairman

WG/rll

MINISTER'S ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON FURTHER EDUCATION

1986 - 1987 COMMITTEE MEMBERS

MS. WENDY GOULD CHAIRMAN	MAYERTHORPE
MS. MARJORY CAMPBELL	EDMONTON
MR. JOHN HOGAN	CALGARY
MS. MIDGE JONES	ATHABASCA
MR. LOUIS LAMOTHE	WINTERBURN
MR. TERRY LUSTY	EDMONTON
MS. BARBARA MURRAY	EDMONTON
MR. BRIAN O'KURLEY	EDSON
MS. DOREEN ROWE	ST. ALBERT
MS. SANDRA WEIDNER	LACOMBE
MR. ROCKFORD L. LANG EXECUTIVE SECRETARY	ST. ALBERT

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INTRODUCTION

INTRODUCTION

In 1986-87, the Minister's Advisory Committee on Further Education travelled to the central region of the province. The Committee held a public meeting in the City of Edmonton on October 27, 1986, in conjunction with the Alberta Association for Continuing Education's Fall Conference. The Committee decided there was a need to view further education activities in this region and examine how the communities' needs are being met by the present mechanisms utilized in the provision of further education programs.

In order for the Committee to effectively cover various areas of the province it was necessary to split the Committee into two sub-committees. This enabled the Advisory Committee to receive submissions from a greater number of communities within the province, and reduce the support necessary for each individual public meeting. The briefs and verbal presentations received over the course of the year were examined and extensively discussed at a private meeting of the Committee as a whole.

The Committee would like to acknowledge the hospitality of the people who received the Committee in the past year. We were very well received in all communities, and impressed by the high quality of educational opportunities and community inventiveness that were in progress under difficult circumstances. Despite problems of distance, limited personnel and resources, it is obvious that Further Education has many innovative practitioners in Alberta.

The Committee also wishes to acknowledge the vital contributions made to adult education in the province by volunteers. Volunteerism has been a basic ingredient in the success of the Further Education program and without such assistance, thousands of rural Albertans would have been unable to take advantage of organized part-time educational courses. The coordinating and facilitating role of Alberta Advanced Education, together with the services of the volunteers, and institutional and agency representatives, has continued to make the Further Education sector in Alberta an enviable success story.

Finally, the Committee wishes to thank the Minister of Advanced Education for the opportunity to meet with Albertans to discuss Alberta's educational needs. The following Report reflects both the views and concerns of Albertans. This input is an essential component in the continued growth and development of further education in Alberta.

PENDING ISSUES AND RECOMMENDATIONS

FOR REFERRAL TO THE NEW

MINISTER'S ADVISORY COMMITTEE

PENDING ISSUES AND RECOMMENDATIONS

FOR REFERRAL TO THE NEW MINISTER'S

ADVISORY COMMITTEE

1. Pending issues to be addressed by the new Advisory Committee, and

2. Guidelines for the submission of briefs at the Committee's public meetings.

Item #1: Based on the briefs received and informal discussions with many local educators, the Committee has reached the conclusion that there are overlaps and gaps in our present adult education system. There presently exists within the Province very effective educational systems for providing credit and non-credit education programs outside of the main urban centres, however, there is not enough coordination amongst these various systems. Our present policies make it impossible for consistent and equitable educational services to be received throughout the Province.

Alberta at this time is at the forefront of providing local education in small communities in a flexible and self-governing model, but there is a need for change due to the growth in the demand for programs and the changes in the economy. We need to provide more with less money. An evaluation of the administration of the systems, and input by the local communities for changes in the systems, could potentially save money. This is an area that covers all the mandates of the previous Advisory Committees.

Recommendations:

1) That the Minister of Advanced Education consider the need for increased co-ordination among the distant and community education systems (i.e. Community Consortia, Further Education Councils, Community Schools, Community Schools, etc.) to reduce the overlaps and fill in the gaps of service at the local level,

2) That the Minister of Advanced Education look into a system wide review ensuring input from the local organizations,

3) That the Minister direct the new committee to participate in this review.

Item #2: The following guidelines were created by the Advisory Committee to more efficiently receive briefs at public meetings, as well as alleviate any concerns the public may have regarding the Committee's summarization of their briefs in order to accommodate the required format in the annual report. It was felt, by the Committee, that these guidelines may be of use to assist the new Committee in its activities.

Guidelines for the Submission of Briefs to the Minister's Advisory Committee on Further Education

The following guidelines will apply to the submission of all briefs presented at public meetings scheduled by the Minister's Advisory Committee on Further Education.

1. Twelve copies of the brief, including the original, shall be sent to the Executive Secretary four weeks prior to the date of the meeting at which the brief is to be presented. Briefs received after the four week deadline may still be presented at the public meeting but will not be addressed by the Committee, for recommendation purposes, until the following Committee's private meeting. Exceptions to the provision of twelve copies of the brief are possible if prior arrangements are made with the Executive Secretary. The original brief however, must be received by the four week deadline in order that Committee members may have adequate time to review the issues prior to the meeting itself.

2. The presenters' verbal presentation of their briefs at a public meeting should include an overview of the issue(s) expressed in the brief, provide additional information from that which is in the brief, and provide a response to potential questions.

3. All briefs must be signed and dated by the issuing party(ies), as well as a return address being provided.

4. The original brief must be accompanied by a short, concise 1/2 page typed summary which can be used in the Advisory Committee's Annual Report to summarize the text of the brief presented. Those who do not provide a summary along with their brief, or by mail shortly thereafter, shall through acquiescence agree to the Committee providing the summary in lieu of one received. In addition, the Committee reserves the right to reformat any summary which does not coincide with the format required. An example of the desired format is provided on the folowing page.

COMMITTEE SUMMARY & RECOMMENDATION FORMS

PUBLIC MEETING: _____

DATE: _____ **LOCATION:** _____

TOPIC OF BRIEF: _____

SUMMARY OF BRIEF: _____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

RECOMMENDATION: _____

_____

_____

_____

SIGNATURE AND ADDRESS OF PRESENTER:

NAME: _____ _____ _____

ADDRESS: _____ **SIGNATURE**

_____

_____

PRESENTATION

SUMMARIES AND

RECOMMENDATIONS

PRESENTATION SUMMARIES AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Edmonton Fall AACE Conference Public Meeting, Oct. 27, 1986.

1) Leduc Further Education Council, Edmonton, Hilary Brown

The Learning for Life Committee has been formed to bring together all aspects of adult education resulting in a co-ordinated and efficient effort in the City and County of Leduc. Our intent is to develop a Community Learning Centre in Leduc. This centre would cover non-credit and credit programming, enhancing and enlarging that programming already being offered by various agencies and boards. The exciting area of distance education will be explored and, hopefully, utilized.

Recommendation: Move to receive the brief as information.

2) Camrose Adult Read & Write Program, Edmonton, Carrol Burkard

In 1986-87 an advisory committee comprised of members from the F.E.C. and the local community designed an adult literacy program for residents of Camrose and area. The Committee obtained funding from the Alberta Wildrose Foundation and the Camrose and District Support Services due to the unavailability of funds from the Provincial government. Since then, the Government has doubled the funding for the 1987 literacy programs. We applaud this move. We ask that the Government make funding available on an equitable basis to those communities prepared to offer programs in their region. We believe that Provincial government support of literacy programs is just as important as all the other areas of education currently being supplied.

Recommendation: That the Minister of Advanced Education recognize the vital service that literacy programs provide those who are illiterate, and that the Government strengthen its financial commitment to eliminate illiteracy in Alberta.

3) Lacombe Further Education Council, Edmonton, Joan Piening

The Council wishes to raise two points of current concern.

#1. The County of Lacombe is an area that is not served by a Consortium, a decentralized post-secondary institution, an Alberta Vocational Centre outlet, or a community school. The Further Education Council serves many of the functions which would otherwise be covered by the above-noted organizations. Therefore, we request the Minister's Advisory Committee consider recommending that Further Education Councils be permitted to apply for funding for credit programs.

#2. When the position of Co-ordinator of a Further Education Council was created, the suggested part-time nature of the position was probably adequate but for some years now that has definitely not been the case. The County of Lacombe Further Education Council respectfully requests that the Minister's Advisory Committee recommend to the Minister that consideration be given to bringing the Further Education Council's administrative grant more closely in line with the present demands, with particular reference to the salary of Co-ordinators.

Recommendation: #1. Move that financial support be established to facilitate the provision of credit courses by post-secondary institutions and Further Education Councils in areas where this support is not presently provided. Also, that the issue raised in the Lacombe Further Education Council's brief be referred to the new Minister's Advisory Committee as a pending issue.

Recommendation: #2. That the appropriate salary and benefit packages be established to ensure the continuation of the essential leadership role of Co-ordinators.

4) Greater Edmonton Councils, Edmonton, Earle Alexander

The intent of the brief is to inform the Minister of Advanced Education and his Advisory Committee of the existence of an informal group of Further Education Councils which has formed in the greater Edmonton area and to bring to the attention of the Minister an emerging problem which has been identified by this group. At the most recent meeting of the Greater Edmonton Councils, the topic of instructor training, particularly for part-time instructors, was discussed. The Councils would like to

recommend to the Minister that Alberta Advanced Education assume a leadership role in establishing a province-wide system of standards and activity co-ordination so as to maximize the benefits of this training to instructors, employers, course providers and adult learners in the Province.

Recommendation: That this issue be referred to the new Minister's Advisory Committee as a pending issue. The response from AACE, which has been sent a copy of the brief for comments, will also be directed to the new Committee as additional information.

5) Grande Prairie Further Education Council, Edmonton, Cheryl Kuhn

Since the inception of the Council in 1974, the Council has witnessed many changes which affected the local Council. During this period of growth it became apparent that the increased administrative responsibility in the area of finance, program and statistical records illustrated the need for additional administrative support. The Council now has a good perspective as to the actual costs and benefits of operating as an independent society. We support recommendations made by other Councils, i.e., raising the ceiling on the administrative grant, or the combining of the programming and administrative grants, giving councils more flexibility in the distribution of these monies. We recommend that the Advisory Committee address the issue of the inadequacy of present administrative funding with the Minister of Advanced Education.

Recommendation: That consideration be given to to increasing the funds available to meet administrative costs by blending the Administrative and Programming grants, or by lifting the grant ceilings.

6) East Park Educational Opportunities Council, Edmonton, Gladys Rehman

We would like to recommend that the Further Education Advisory Committee look at each Further Education Council and what they are doing with their money since they were developed. We feel those councils who have used their money to put on a number of courses in a wide range of topic areas, should be the ones to receive the most

funds. We would also like to recommend that the Advisory Committee take a look at where the Further Education Councils are located in Alberta. The ones nearer to the larger centres will have an easier opportunity of obtaining resources for educational purposes. Whereas, because we are a long distance away from any large centre, we should receive additional funding to continue providing a service to residents in this area. People in our area are driving a long distance in order to get to a central location for a course.

Recommendation: That the Minister direct Further Education Services, Alberta Advanced Education, to undertake a study on the impact of the present funding policy on Further Education Councils, and that recommendations relative to this investigation be formulated for the Minister's consideration.

BRIEFS RECEIVED IN 1986-87

BRIEFS RECEIVED IN 1986-87

(1) LEDUC FURTHER EDUCATION COUNCIL

(2) CAMROSE ADULT READ & WRITE PROGRAM

(3) LACOMBE FURTHER EDUCATION COUNCIL

(4) GREATER EDMONTON COUNCILS

(5) GRANDE PRAIRIE FURTHER EDUCATION COUNCIL

(6) EAST PARK EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES COUNCIL

LIST OF CONTACTS FOR

BRIEFS SUBMITTED

AT PUBLIC MEETINGS

NAME AND ADDRESS OF

CONTACT PERSON FOR BRIEFS

SUBMITTED AT PUBLIC MEETINGS

Leduc Further Education Council:
Ms. Hilary Brown
Coordinator
Box 401
Leduc, Alberta
T9E 2Z3

Camrose Adult Read & Write Program:
Ms. Carrol Burkard
Chairperson
c/o Camrose and Area Further Education Council
5402 - 48 A Avenue
Camrose, Alberta
T4V 0L3

Lacombe Further Education Council:
Ms. Joan Piening
Coordinator
P.O. Bag Service #78
Lacombe, Alberta
T0C 1S0

Greater Edmonton Councils:
c/o Ms. Carol Humphries
Coordinator
E.A.C.E.R.
Grant MacEwan Community College
8020 - 118 Avenue
Edmonton, Alberta
T5B 0R7

Grande Prairie Council For Lifelong Learning:
Ms. Ruth Lindsay
Coordinator
Box 1179
Grande Prairie, Alberta
T8V 4B6

East Park Educational Opportunities Council:
Ms. Gladys Rehman
Coordinator
Box 178
Provost, Alberta
T0B 3S0